

Message Text

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SUBJECT: UN ADMINISTRATION: COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES

REF: USUN 2372, USUN 2568, USUN 2445, USUN 2405

1. AT ITS JUNE 21 MEETING THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES APPROVED THE REQUEST OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE TO HOLD AN ADDITIONAL SESSION FROM OCTOBER 23 TO NOVEMBER 3 IN GENEVA. THE COMMITTEE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE CONSIDER HOLDING LENGTHIER BUT FEWER SESSIONS.

2. USSR (GRODSKY) AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA OBJECTED TO THE DECISION WITH GRODSKY ARGUING THAT THE COMMITTEE NEEDED MORE INFORMATION AS TO WHY THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE REQUIRED ANOTHER SESSION. CHAIRMAN OKEYO (KENYA) IN GUIDING THE COMMITTEE TO ITS DECISION DESPITE THE OBJECTIONS TO IT, NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE COMMITTEE WORKED ON A CONSENSUS BASIS, "CONSENSUS DOES NOT MEAN UNANIMITY."

3. COMMITTEE ALSO BRIEFLY DISCUSSED THE DEMAND FOR UN CONFERENCE SERVICES AND FACILITIES FOR AUGUST - SEPTEMBER BY LOS, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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OTHERS (SEE REFTELS). SECRETARIAT (OUDOVENKO) RECAPITULATED THE PROBLEMS FACING THE DEPARTMENT OF CONFERENCE SERVICES. HE SAID THERE WAS A NEW PROPOSAL TO EXPEDITE THE RENOVATION OF THE CONFERENCE ROOMS SO THAT THEY WOULD BE READY FOR USE BY SEPTEMBER 1. HOWEVER, GENERAL SERVICES HAS TERMED THIS IDEA "PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE." IT WOULD ALSO

ENTAIL UNANTICIPATED FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. BOTH NEW ZEALAND AND SIR LANKA REGRETTED THAT THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES HAD NOT BEEN FULLY APPRISED OF THE CONSULTATIONS ON THIS MATTER. US (CUNNINGHAM) SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD 1. OFFER ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE SECRETARIAT IN ITS SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM AND 2. APPEAL TO ALL PARTIES THAT THE EXIGENCIES OF THE MOMENT; E.G. RECONSTRUCTION, SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHEN WORKING OUT A COMPROMISE. ALL CONCERNED PARTIES SHOULD ALSO REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS AT ACCOMODATION. NEW ZEALAND EXTENDED ITS THANKS TO THE SECRETARIAT FOR THE WORK IT HAS DONE. AT THAT POINT THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING.

4. COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES WILL MEET THE WEEK OF JUNE 26 TO ACT ON THE DEMAND FOR CONFERENCE SERVICES FOR AUGUST-SEPTEMBER. YOUNG

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